

I CLAIM AS MY INVENTION:

1. A system for capturing, archiving and transmitting medical images and their associated data, the system comprising:

(1) means for generating medical data, said medical data comprising both image data and textual data;

(2) means for capturing the medical data, said capturing means comprising a software program and computer;

(3) means for storing the data in an archive; and

(4) means for transmitting the data to a user.

2. The system of claim 1 further comprising means for querying numeric, character, logical, date and binary fields.

3. The system of claim 1 wherein the means for generating medical data comprises a voice recognition system and the medical data further comprises audio input.

4. The system of claim 3 further comprising a system audio component to enable a user to store the audio input directly into the archive in a report format.

5. The system of claim 1 wherein the storage means is selected from the group consisting of a hard drive, floppy

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drive, a removable storage system, an optical storage system, a CD drive, a networked drive internal to the user, an array of drives, and a networked drive accessible via the Internet.

6. The system of claim 1 further comprising a videoconferencing component to enable the user to provide healthcare services over distance utilizing a wired or wireless connection.

7. A method of capturing and archiving medical data comprising the steps of:

- (a) generating medical data using one or more input devices, said medical data comprising both image and textual data;
- (b) capturing the medical data from the input devices;
- (c) storing the medical data in an archive that permits an institution to document an audit trail; and
- (d) transmitting the medical data on demand to a user.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the medical data comprises imaging data, textual data and audio data.